

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 SSO-00 PPT-02 SCA-01 USIE-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 INRE-00 PA-04

PRS-01 NSCE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /098 W

----- 123300

O R 200620Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4010

INFO CINCPAC

SECDEF WASHDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, SWEL, BG

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH RELIEF EFFORT: SURPRISE ARRIVAL MILITARY
PHOTOGRAPHERS

1. SECOND C-141 FROM GUAM BROUGHT NOT ONLY RELIEF
SUPPLIES FOR BANGLADESH BUT TWO U.S. MILITARY PHOTO-
GRAPHERS. THEY ARE TECH. SGTS. EDGAR ELLISON AND JOHN
MUNSON, WHO CARRYING ORDERS UNSTRUCTING THEM REMAIN IN
BANGLADESH FOR UP TO 30 DAYS TO COVER "ARRIVAL AND
(MOST IMPORTANT) ACTUAL RELIEF OPERATIONS." MUSNON HAS
NO PASSPORT, ALTHOUGH ELLISON DOES. NEITHER HAS VALID
VISA TO BE IN BANGLADESH, THOUGH THAT MIGHT BE OVERCOME,
AT LEAST IF VALID PASSPORT HELD.

2. WE HAD BEEN AWARE FROM JCS MESSAGE 7861 DATE/TIME
171615Z AUG 74 THAT THERE WOULD BE REQUEST, REPEAT
REQUEST, FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE. THIS USIS/DACCA HAS,
OF COURSE, UNDERTAKEN. HOWEVER, WE HAD NO INDICATION
THAT MILITARY PHOTOGRAPHERS WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING
AIRCRAFT.

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3. WE ARE SEEKING TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR THEM TO ENTER AND FULFILL THEIR MISSION. HOWEVER, WE MUST ANTICIPATE REAL PROBLEMS. FACT THAT THEY ARE IN UNIFORM MAY AROUSE SUSPICIONS AND PROVE INSURMOUNTABLE IMPEDIMENT TO ENTRY AND FREE ACCESS. FACT THAT THEY OFFICIAL AMERICAN PERSONNEL WHOSE MOVEMENTS BEYOND DACCA REQUIRE ADVANCE NOTICE 7 DAYS TO MFA SIMPLY ADDS TO DIFFICULTY.

4. WE UNDERSTAND TWO MORE MEMBERS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC TEAM ARE EXPECTED ON THIS AFTERNOON'S FLIGHT; THEY ARE SAID TO BE COLONEL LOWELL LEMAY AND SGT. THOMAS MATHIS. IF WE CANNOT OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR TEAM TO ENTER AND PHOTOGRAPH RELIEF EFFORTS BY THAT TIME, WE WILL CONSULT WITH COL. LEMAY REGARDING ANY SPECIAL COVERAGE HE MAY WANT USIS TO UNDERTAKE.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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